

IT IS CLAIMED:

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A1  
5 1. A method of communicating data between a non-volatile memory card connected with a host system and an external device, comprising electrically and mechanically attaching an input-output card to the memory card and communicating data between the memory card and the external device through the input-output card rather than through the host system.

10 2. The method of claim 1, wherein data is wirelessly communicated between the input-output card and the external device through an antenna included within the input-output card.

15 3. The method of claim 1, wherein attaching the input-output card to the memory card includes engaging mating connectors provided on edges of the memory and input-output cards, wherein the memory card connector is positioned on an opposite side of the memory card from an edge along which electrical contacts are positioned that are connected with the host.

20 4. The method of claim 3, wherein engaging mating connectors includes laterally pushing said mating connectors together in a manner to automatically both establish electrical contact between and mechanically latch the memory and input-output cards together to resist their pulling apart.

25 5. The method of claim 1, wherein communicating data between the memory card and the external device through the input-output card utilizes a controller in the memory card that also controls the transfer of data between the memory in the memory card and the host system.

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